First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

Guide us to Thy Perfect Light
O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.
www.thecatholicrealist.com

http://thecatholicrealist.com/tag/epiphany/

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

February 8, 2015 10:00 am

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER: We invite you to participate in this community of faith. If you are a visitor for the first time, please fill out the welcome pad being passed around. We invite you to join us for Friendship Time (refreshments and conversation) at the conclusion of worship.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN so that they may come to understand the worship experience. Families are encouraged to talk about the parts of worship so children may understand and participate. During the worship service we have a time for children with the minister on the rug in the center of the worship space followed by Sunday school (September-May).

Hymns are found in the following books:
NCH *(Black, hardcover "New Century Hymnal")*
Sing! *(Black, softcover, "Sing! Prayer and Praise" songbook)*
ES *(Green, softcover "Everflowing Streams" songbook)*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Invitation

All people are welcome to participate in this community of faith
If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak with the Pastor or any member of the Community.

Prelude — Steve McGhee

*Gathering Hymn — "Dream God's Dream" — 120 NCH - Steve McGhee

Welcome — Donna Eyster

Guests, please complete a Visitor Card and place in the offering plate so we may have a record of your visit.
We hope you will join us for Friendship Time and refreshments after the service.

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

**Please rise in body or spirit as you are able*

Announcements — Donna Eyster

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Ringing the Bell

*Hymn "We Yearn, O Christ, For Wholeness" 179 NCH

Focusing Prayer (Unison) Donna Eyster

Gracious God,
hear our songs.
Gather us in as one people,
that we may worship you as one body.
Heal our broken hearts and bind up our wounds,
that we may come into your presence
healthy and whole.
As we seek your wisdom.
Help us to discern your greatness,
as we honor the power and glory of your love.
Amen.

— written by Mary J. Scifres, and posted on the **Ministry Matters** website

Anthem "This Little Light" FCC Choir

LISTENING FOR GOD

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 40:21-31 Donna Eyster

Hymn "Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child" 136 NCH

Children's Time *children are invited to come forward* Carol Hall

New Testament Reading Mark 1:29-39 Carol Hall

Reflection "Rejoice in Hearing" Carol Hall

*Hymn "Liberator of All Nations" 20 ES

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

Prayers of the People Carol Hall

All are invited to offer a prayer, testimony, praise report or prayer request at this time.
Please limit your sharing to one or two sentences and remember confidentiality issues.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison) -- Alternate Version — Carol Hall

When we say the Lord's Prayer, please feel free to follow the traditional form or use language that feels comfortable to you, e.g. Mother, Creator, God, Friend, or Realm, Kindom, Wisdom.

Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey

O God, you love us like a good parent,
and are present in every aspect of our existence.
May your nature become known and respected by all.
May your joy, peace, wholeness and justice be the reality for everyone
as we live by the Jesus Way.
Give us all that we really need to live every day for you.
And forgive us our failures as we forgive others for their failures.
Keep us from doing those things which are not of you,
and cause us always to be centered on your love.
For you are the true reality in this our now, and in all our future.
In the Jesus Way we pray. Amen.

-- David Sorrill, cited on http://rainbowcathedral.wordpress.com/prayers

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RESPONDING TO OUR CALLING

Invitation to the Offering (Unison) — Donna Eyster

There is Thanksgiving in all that you have created for us, Lord. Help us to share our good fortune with those who are in need. Show us the way to manifest your peace, love, hope and joy in all that we share and do. Amen.

Offertory — Steve McGhee

*Doxology — "Take My Gifts" — 562 NCH

Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, Gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!

*Prayer of Dedication *(Unison)* — Donna Eyster

Provider God, help change the way we view the world in terms of scarcity. We live in abundance, yet we fear that which we do not have. Our cupboards are full, yet we gather up more than we need. Help our hearts and minds to see the plenty that is around us, and give us wisdom to worship you in our stewardship of all of these your gifts. Amen.

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

*Hymn of Departure	"How Firm A Foundation"	407 NCH
*Benediction		Carol Hall
Postlude		Steve McGhee

(Please be seated for the Postlude)

Passing the Peace *Share a greeting with your neighbor as we transition to our snack.*

First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413
218 North Adams Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198
734-482-6980
website: ***www.ypsiucc.com***

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God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Our Volunteers	Today: Feb 8th	Next Sunday: Feb 15th
Usher	Jamie Goldsmith	Wayne Burling
Preaching	Carol Hall	Carol Hall
Worship Leader	Donna Eyster	Orin Brustad
Worship Set-up	Margaret Harner	Donna Eyster
Acolyte	Desayre Penn	Hunter Turner
Friendship Time	Melanie Harner	Carol & Caroline
Sunday School	Patty Sherwood	Tad Wysor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Choir rehearsal this week will be Tuesday at 6:30 PM Come, join the fun and try it out. We have a great time. Don't need to read music or have trained voice.

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES: If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Glenda Horvath, 734-904-0420

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Kindly remember in your prayers our members and friends who are sick and/or shut-in. Send a card or note to lift their spirits and yours as well.

Fran Pebbles' address: *American Homes Carpenter, 3470 Carpenter Rd., Apt 332, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: 734-975-0987*

Sally Dusbiber's address': *Silver Maples of Chelsea, Room 1211, 100 Silver Maples Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118. Sally's direct phone line is 734-433-2396 and the Silver Maples line is 734-475-4111, x217.*

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY (WICIR): For information about what's happening with Immigrant Rights and *Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights*, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Margaret Harner at 734-483-3464 or through their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/WICIR .

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: For information about what's happening with Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition, or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Wayne Burling at 734-377-0696. More information can be found on their website http://www.mi-ona.org or on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/onami/

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION: "First Congregational is a co-founding institution of the new local "organization of organizations" WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition). In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. The diverse faith congregations and labor and community organizations that make up WeROC are, at our core, focused on intentionally reweaving the frayed fabric of community -- at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated and on our own. We are showing by example that people from many backgrounds and perspectives can, even today, come together in powerful ways around our common values and *actually change* unjust public policies. WeROC is a part of the S.E. Michigan organization MOSES and the national Gamaliel Foundation.

See Tad Wysor (tadwysor@gmail.com, 734 883 3225) for more on how First Congregational is connecting with current WeROC issues and actions.

OUR WEBSITE: http://www.ypsiucc.org Let Wayne know if you have any additional items to be added. He could use lots more pictures. Also check out and like our Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-Ypsilanti/115695119913 .

KROGER FUNDRAISER: HAVE YOU *RE-REGISTERED* WITH KROGER!! Everybody that shops at Kroger and has a shopper's card *MUST* register. ***Last Year's registration expired May 1st*** and you are not getting credit for you purchases until you re-register for the current year.

Go to www.kroger.com and click "REGISTER". Follow prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the Community Rewards site and register with our church. Our number is 83263, or you can find our name in drop down list. Any questions contact Barbara Garland, bargarland@yahoo.com, 734-662-5803.